

SENATE BILL 1181

By Black

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 5, Part 2; Title 2, Chapter 6, Part 1 and Title 2, Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to voting records and procedure.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-215, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

2-5-215.

(a) The county election commission shall provide for each polling place at all elections the bound duplicate registration records of all persons registered at the polling place. In counties that produce a computerized printout of all eligible voters in accordance with § 2-5-216, shall include an electronically scanned signature of each voter on the election rolls on that printout. The scanned signature shall be obtained from the voter's original voter registration application.

(b) In the event illness or physical impairment has significantly altered a voter's signature, that voter shall submit a new signature with appropriate identification to the appropriate election commission.

(c) Counties that currently do not have the bound duplicate registration records or computer printouts that contain electronically scanned signatures shall have until January 1, 2010 to accomplish this task.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-216(b)(1), is amended by deleting subdivision (A) and substituting instead the following:

(A) A printout containing the names and addresses of all eligible voters at the polling place; a scanned signature obtained from the voter's original voter registration application; and a space for the signature of each voter;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(2), is amended by deleting the second sentence of the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

A computerized voter signature list shall include the voter's name, current address of residence, social security number or registration number, birth date, a scanned signature obtained from the voter's original voter registration application, and spaces for the voter's signature, elections voted, ballot number and precinct registrar's initials.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(2), is further amended by deleting subdivision (B) and substituting instead the following:

(B) The registrar shall compare the voter's signature and information on the signature list with the scanned signature obtained from the voter's original voter registration application; or if the scanned signature is unavailable other evidence of identification. If, upon comparison of the signatures or upon comparison of the signature and other evidence of identification, it is found that the applicant is entitled to vote, the registrar shall initial the signature list;

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.